

Identification: Project Resistance. Securing clippings of campus newspapers and other press media pertaining to campus protests and demonstrations. December 1967 - 28 June 1973.

Background: This project was originated in an effort to identify any threat against Agency personnel, installations, or projects and to determine if there were any foreign sponsorship, encouragement, or training involved.

Approval: Project was approved on 7 December 1967 by the Deputy Director for Support. The file does not reflect any coordination with official organizations outside the Agency.

Responsibility: The Office of Security had responsibility for carrying out the operation. The project was originated by the Deputy Director for Support. Clippings were to be submitted by each Field Office to an officer in Security Research Staff.

The Operation: As indicated above, the operation consisted of securing clippings of campus newspapers and other press media pertaining to campus protests and demonstrations. Where possible, clippings were to be submitted mounted on letter-size paper. Such clippings were collected by all the domestic Field Offices. On 8 January 1971, in a memorandum to all Field Offices, the following guidelines were established:

a. No attempt should be made to recruit new informants or sources, such as campus or police officials, for the express purpose of obtaining information regarding dissident groups, individuals, or activities.

b. No new request for such information should be levied on existing informants or sources. This memorandum also stated that the above limitations do not preclude acceptance of information gratuitously offered by informants or sources, and field personnel should continue to be on the alert for non-solicited information which might contribute to the protection of Agency personnel, projects, and installations.

Cover: Cover was, of course, not pertinent to the clipping of newspapers or other press media.

Results: Apparently, voluminous information was obtained in an attempt to identify any threat against Agency personnel, installations, or projects. The file does not reflect whether or not any such threat was surfaced. The project was terminated when it was deemed that the threat to the Agency had diminished considerably.

Termination: The project was terminated on 28 June 1973. However, the file does not reflect who ordered its termination. This operation did not require the preparation of financial accountings of time and costs although one report of investigators' hours spent on the project during the period October 1969 to March 1970 was submitted.

Those Witting: The file does not reveal any information concerning this matter other than those engaged in the operation and witting in the chain of command. The files are located in the Security Support Division.

Comments: The file reflects that the Deputy Director for Support was concerned because student demonstrations began to show a sense of organization, central direction, commonality of demonstrations and techniques, and common or repeated phrasology in literature and materials. In essence: organization. Student demonstrators produced bullhorns, marshalls, platoon leaders, mobile segments, etc.

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